

**To:** Timothy Williams[timothy\_williams@ios.doi.gov]; Caroline Boulton[caroline\_boulton@ios.doi.gov]; Mark Aagenes[mark.aagenes@tnc.org]  
**From:** Tom Cors  
**Sent:** 2017-05-03T06:48:33-04:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Dugout Ranch  
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[May DugoutTNC Meeting Request.final.docx](#)

Tim and Caroline,

I hope you both are doing well. I saw this article that Secretary Zinke is set to be in San Juan County on Monday and I'm hoping to hear from you all whether we are going to catch him while he is out there. Last week in DC, I spoke with Secretary Zinke, explained The Nature Conservancy's interests within the monument, and he said he could afford time with us on Tuesday, as he thought he would be in Salt Lake City Monday.

The Nature Conservancy's is the largest private landowner within the monument and we own 5,280 acres in fee and 350,000 acres of grazing allotments.

I've attached the meeting request form that hopefully you both have seen. Give me a ring when you have a chance.

Thanks,

Tom

Tom Cors  
Director, Lands  
US Government Relations  
The Nature Conservancy  
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919-636-2297

SALT LAKE CITY — Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke will fly into Salt Lake City on Sunday and is set to tour spots in the controversial Bears Ears National Monument Monday — on horseback, San Juan County Commissioner Bruce Adams said Tuesday. Adams said he and the other San Juan County commissioners, Phil Lyman and Rebecca Benally, met with Zinke Tuesday.

"It was amazing. It went incredibly well," he said. "It couldn't have gone better."

Zinke, a Western outdoorsman from Montana who was elected as a GOP congressman for that state, began his first day on the job as new head of the Department of Interior by riding a horse to the office.

Adams said San Juan County officials are rustling up a mount for Zinke so he can see portions of the 1.35 million acre monument from the ground up.

On Tuesday, Zinke will also visit the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, a sore spot for Utah's elected GOP leaders who complained — and sued — over its designation in 1996 by then President Bill Clinton.

Garfield County commissioners want the monument rescinded like their counterparts in San Juan County — or the size of the monument greatly reduced.

#### 2 comments on this story

The Utah Legislature has passed and Utah Gov. Gary Herbert signed resolutions against both monuments.

Zinke is visiting Utah as part of a 45 day review directed by an executive order on national monument designations issued by President Donald Trump last week.

The order directs an Interior Department review of all monument designations of 100,000 acres or more since 1996.

The Bears Ears National monument was designated in the final days of President Barack Obama's administration at the urging of the Bears Ears Inter Tribal Coalition and multiple conservation groups.

*Andrew Harnik, Associated Press*

*FILE— Newly sworn in Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke speaks, Wednesday, March 1, 2017, in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House complex in Washington.*

## U.S. Department of the Interior    Office of the Secretary

# Meeting Proposal Information Form

\*Please complete this form and send to [scheduling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scheduling@ios.doi.gov)

**Specific request to the Secretary:**

2.5 hour visit to The Nature Conservancy's Dugout Ranch and Canyonlands Research Center to discuss PLI, Bears Ears National Monument, LWCF legislative agenda as well as see Dugout Ranch, which frames the entry into Needles District of Canyonlands National Park. Our land interests 5,280 acres in fee and 350,000 acres in active grazing allotments are wholly within the Bears Ears Monument. The Nature Conservancy is the largest private land owner interest in the monument.

**Meeting date:**

May 9<sup>th</sup> during the Secretary's Utah visit.

**Meeting location:**

Dugout Ranch is located 60 miles southwest of Moab in San Juan County, Utah at Mile Marker 0 on the left on Highway 211, about five miles past Newspaper Rock.

**Contact information:**

Tom Cors, The Nature Conservancy. [tcors@tnc.org](mailto:tcors@tnc.org) 919 636 2297

**Briefly describe the proposed meeting agenda in as much detail as possible, and the desired outcome of the Secretary's participation:**

While the Secretary is in Utah to discuss the Bears Ears National Monument, we would be pleased to have the him visit TNC's Dugout Ranch. Aside from the federal government, The Nature Conservancy has a working cattle ranch and is the largest land owner within the Monument boundaries. We would like to discuss our participation in conservation efforts in San Juan County. The Dugout Ranch, owned by The Nature Conservancy, is now the largest private inholding within BENM. Accordingly, the management of the BENM and the composition of the Advisory Committee being established is of keen interest to The Nature Conservancy. Our property is also home to the Canyonlands Research Center a research collaborative supported by state and federal agencies, as well as major universities studying the interactive effects of land use on the Colorado Plateau. Also, we would like to discuss strategy on one of Mr. Zinke's priorities, the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This meeting would be non attributable and without press. Depending on the Secretary's schedule, it would be a good place to have lunch.

**Expected meeting participants (names and titles):**

Dave Livermore, TNC Utah State Director  
Sue Bellagamba, TNC Canyonlands Regional Director  
Matt Redd, TNC Canyonlands Research Center Project Manager  
Heidi Redd, Owner/Operator Indian Creek Cattle Company  
Kristen Redd, TNC, Field Station Manager, Canyonlands Research Center  
Kameran Onley, TNC Director of US Government Relations  
Tom Cors, TNC Director of Lands, US Government Relations  
Mark Aagenes, TNC Director of Government Relations, Montana Chapter

**Desired length of time for the meeting:**

2.5 hours.

**Are there any other specific matters you would like the Secretary to address?**

Not at this time.

**Please supply any pertinent background information regarding the genesis of this meeting proposal:**

Please see attached article on Dugout Ranch and the Canyonlands Research Center

**With which Bureau or Agency does your agenda most align?**

The Nature Conservancy works across all the Department's bureaus and agencies.

**If the Secretary is unable to meet, is a surrogate desired? If yes, who specifically?**